GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3200
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2017
Pollution Norms for Thermal Power Stations
Singh Shri Lallu

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Authority proposes to implement improved pollution norms in thermal power generation projects of the country from the year 2020 instead of 2017;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the details of the proposals made by the above mentioned Authority; and

(c) the reasons for changing earlier decision taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c) : Many of the existing thermal power plants are not in a position to put in place the required technology by 7th December 2017 due to following reasons:

(i) Time is required for Design and Engineering, approvals, arrangement of funds, tendering and erection, testing and commissioning. Implementation period of 24-36 months for installation of pollution control equipment is required by each unit.

(ii) All the plants/units cannot be shut down simultaneously. Therefore, planned shut-down is required to ensure uninterrupted power supply in the country.

(iii) To fully meet the Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) emission norms notified by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) or Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) system needs to be installed in some units. These technologies are not yet fully proved under indigenous conditions with high ash coal.

In view of the above, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) was entrusted with the responsibility of preparing a plan for implementation of new environmental norms issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in December 2015, keeping in view the power demand-supply position, time required to install pollution control equipments and available technological options. After consultation with Regional Power Committees and power utilities from Central/State/Independent Power Plants, an implementation plan for installation/ upgradation of pollution control equipments in coal based thermal plants has been prepared.

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